

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 800

By Langster

A RESOLUTION to recognize the Reverend David Vaughn, Sr.,
on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those persons who in their years of work have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm; and

WHEREAS, the Reverend David Vaughn is one such estimable person who has served with probity for eleven years with the state of Tennessee, having previously been employed by the United Methodist Publishing Board and Fort Negley Laundry; and

WHEREAS, born in Old Hickory, David Vaughn was educated in the public schools of Nashville and he served his nation with valor in the United States Navy during World War II; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Vaughn has been actively involved in the Christian faith from an early age; he was ordained as a minister over forty years ago, and assumed the pastorate of the Castalian Springs First Baptist Church shortly thereafter, and continued in that capacity until recently. He is a member of the East Fork Missionary Baptist Association in Gallatin; and

WHEREAS, since the Lord led David to the pastorate of First Baptist, God has richly blessed the church both in terms of membership and spiritual growth; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Vaughn has been the *de facto* chaplain of the staff of the General Assembly since he first arrived to work at the Legislative Plaza/War Memorial Building Complex in January, 1989; his fervent preaching and praying, his melodious singing and his wise counsel have comforted and inspired both legislators and staff in times of grief and of celebration; and

WHEREAS, David has been an important part of two different legislative devotional groups on Wednesdays during the session and on Tuesdays when the General Assembly is not in session, by preaching, praising, testifying, singing and praying; and

WHEREAS, David Vaughn was fortunate to have enjoyed the support and comfort of his wife of many years, the late Virginia Douglas Vaughn, who died in 1997; together they were the proud parents of twelve children and the doting grandparents of 40 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, throughout his remarkable life, Rev. Vaughn has placed a strong emphasis on family values, reliance on God and hard work; and

WHEREAS, following his retirement on Friday, May 26, 2000, the Reverend Vaughn will spend more time in his ministry and with his family; his many friends and co-workers can rest assured that his steadfast witness to the good news of the Gospel and his ready hand of friendship and counsel will continue to be freely available; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Vaughn exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that is characteristic of a true Tennessean; this humble servant of God always gives God the Glory and the Praises; and

WHEREAS, the words of his favorite hymn, "Amazing Grace," are both a strong statement as to the difference the Lord can make in each of our lives and to the difference God has made in David's own life; through his mother's intervention; and

WHEREAS, throughout his highly productive years of work and in the ministry, David Vaughn has demonstrated a remarkable ability to relate to others, offering helpful advice and insight in matters both mundane and spiritual, winning the respect and admiration of all who have come to know him; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we extend to the Reverend David Vaughn, Sr., our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.